



MI-CW1911

# Michigan Crop Weather

May 9, 2011

## Cool Spring

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 8, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.03 inches to 0.09 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.02 to 0.13 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from 2 to 3 degrees below normal in the Upper Peninsula and from 1 to 5 degrees below normal in the Lower Peninsula. The sun and drying temperatures were a welcomed sight towards the end of the week. This was the first decent week for field activity this spring. Farmers were selective on which fields to plant relative to soil moisture and drainage. Livestock operations were finishing up lambing. Calving was still underway. Field activities included, manure hauling and application, planting of various crops, and nitrogen and herbicide application on wheat.

## Field Crops

Producers started making marginal progress in select fields as temperatures warmed in the latter part of the week. Fields started to dry out, but many were still too saturated to support equipment. Soil temperatures remained cool. While most fields were drying out, several wet spots and some standing water could be found on heavy soils. Fertilizer and manure were applied in fields that allowed. **Wheat** was in Feekes growth stage 6 in the southeast. Yellowing was found in low ground. Overall, wheat and **alfalfa** growth advanced slowly. **Corn** and **soybean** planting progressed, especially over the weekend on well drained soils. Early planted **sugarbeets** struggled due to crusting and drown out. A few fields needed replanting while other fields looked excellent.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/08/11

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	0	54	46
Subsoil	0	1	58	41

Crop condition for week ending 05/08/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Pasture	4	10	32	46	8
Winter Wheat	2	7	19	59	13

## Fruit

Tree and green tissue growth advanced slowly due to cooler air and soil temperatures at the start of the week. Fruit buds continue to develop slowly. Growers were busy applying fertilizer, tree planting, and pruning stone fruits. Limited amount of preventive sprays were applied as a result of several windy days. **Apple** scab has been a growing problem as a result of the cool wet spring. **Tart** and **sweet cherries** are at bud burst in northwest lower Michigan and in bloom in southwest lower Michigan. **Apricots** were starting to bloom. **Blueberries** ranged from bud burst to early pink in more advanced varieties. Varying amounts of winter damage has been found in buds. **Blackberries** were between bud burst and half inch green.

## Vegetables

The warm, dry conditions in the latter part of the week allowed vegetable growers to begin catching up on their fieldwork. Vegetable crops across the State were off to a slow start this year due to the continued cool temperatures and wet fields. Some early **asparagus** picking will begin in West Central Michigan later this week. Planting of cool season vegetables are averaging about one week behind normal this season. In Southwest Michigan, open field planting of warm season crops had not started yet. As conditions allow, vegetable growers will move forward quickly to get their fields planted.

Crop progress for week ending 05/08/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Asparagus, harvested	4	0	9	11
Barley, planted	16	3	87	56
Barley, emerged	2	1	58	29
Corn, planted	8	1	72	49
Oats, planted	40	17	95	82
Oats, emerged	10	5	77	52
Soybeans, planted	3	0	33	20
Sugarbeets, planted	45	17	100	95

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/08/11 <sup>1</sup>

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2011	2010	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	72	25		85	189		0.09	1.30	2.40	3.70		
Marquette	70	26		81	178		0.04	1.82	3.04	4.58		
Stephenson	69	24		102	237		0.03	1.81	3.65	4.51		
Western UP	72	20	-3	85	194	119	0.03	1.22	2.31	3.57	3.11	3.37
Cornell	68	29		69	207		0.07	1.71	3.53	4.41		
Sault St Marie	69	31		72	184		0.00	2.69	4.36	5.53		
Eastern UP	70	21	-2	71	183	65	0.09	1.82	3.64	4.76	3.33	3.01
Beulah	73	30		117	243		0.05	2.08	3.89	7.11		
Lake City	69	28		121	234		0.07	2.36	4.22	6.23		
Old Mission	68	30		99	244		0.00	1.93	3.32	4.42		
Pellston	69	26		114	232		0.01	2.28	4.33	5.43		
Northwest	73	26	-4	105	228	147	0.02	2.05	3.60	5.19	3.43	2.61
Alpena	65	31		99	223		0.04	2.95	4.91	6.66		
Houghton Lake	70	32		135	253		0.08	2.62	4.46	6.30		
Rogers City	64	30		68	204		0.04	1.08	2.91	4.64		
Northeast	70	30	-1	108	238	134	0.05	2.43	4.39	6.18	3.34	2.76
Fremont	69	29		140	279		0.02	2.06	3.79	5.22		
Hart	69	28		121	246		0.09	1.83	3.39	4.32		
Muskegon	72	32		138	276		0.00	1.93	4.21	5.29		
West Central	72	28	-5	130	262	177	0.03	2.03	3.80	4.92	3.80	2.67
Alma	67	36		136	278		0.01	2.57	4.43	5.75		
Big Rapids	66	30		119	282		0.03	3.55	6.50	8.75		
Central	71	30	-2	135	280	196	0.02	2.47	4.35	5.70	3.86	2.79
Bad Axe	65	37		127	269		0.17	2.44	4.95	7.22		
Pigeon	65	37		133	273		0.09	2.18	4.13	5.95		
Saginaw	67	38		158	304		0.03	2.57	4.80	6.40		
Standish	66	35		127	268		0.07	3.38	5.62	7.20		
East Central	67	34	-3	130	276	186	0.08	2.58	4.86	6.42	3.23	2.63
Fennville	72	31		150	310		0.04	2.38	4.56	5.54		
Grand Rapids	71	33		178	343		0.02	3.13	6.22	7.30		
Holland	71	34		204	340		0.05	2.61	4.61	5.87		
South Bend, IN	71	32		203	359		0.40	3.67	6.15	7.85		
Watervliet	71	33		167	330		0.15	2.67	5.21	6.24		
Southwest	74	28	-5	170	332	221	0.13	2.71	5.16	6.22	4.00	3.01
Belding	69	33		146	294		0.01	2.98	5.74	6.72		
Coldwater	72	33		179	348		0.33	1.75	4.14	5.27		
Lansing	68	35		160	334		0.02	1.80	4.53	5.62		
South Central	72	31	-3	160	321	221	0.10	2.25	4.75	5.84	3.81	2.92
Detroit	71	36		191	368		0.10	2.16	4.79	6.36		
Flint	69	36		180	326		0.12	1.87	4.45	5.81		
Romeo	68	38		154	291		0.12	1.84	3.68	4.82		
Tipton	70	38		178	333		0.26	3.00	5.26	6.81		
Toledo, OH	68	37		172	373		0.12	2.06	4.06	5.27		
Southeast	71	30	-2	174	342	206	0.12	2.09	4.22	5.44	3.81	2.85

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.